









the pay of army surgeons excessive, but they have decided that it is adequate. They suggest the fixing of new titles, which shall at once denote the rank of a doctor, a Surgeon-General being styled a Colonel, and so forth down to the newly-joined Surgeon, who would be styled Lieutenant, in accordance with the present army rank. The Committee further advises that the pay and allowances in India shall be similar to those in Great Britain, and that the period of foreign service shall not exceed five years.

August 25th.  
The Queen received an address from the people of Wrexham yesterday, to which she was pleased to reply. She said she rejoiced to hear of the prosperity and improved state of her subjects, with whom she heartily sympathised.

On the arrival of the steamer *Granville* here yesterday with a large consignment of tea, a squad of civil clerks went to the docks and discharged her. The striking hands are still becoming more numerous, and they held a meeting in Hyde Park to-day.

BRUSSELS, August 25th.  
A lunatic, who had been confined in an asylum at Loverdighem, run amok yesterday, and succeeded in getting possession of a razor with which he killed three persons and inflicted wounds on thirty others.

VIENNA, August 25th.  
The Shah and Count Kalnoky held a conference here yesterday.

August 26th.  
The Czar has sent a special train to Volchinsk on the Austrian frontier to meet the Shah and convey him to Teheran. His Majesty spent yesterday visiting the objects of interest in Vienna.

BOMBAY, August 26th.  
The London correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* is surprised to find that there is absolutely no foundation for the report published in the London letter of an un-courteous paper connecting by name Mr. Herbert Gladstone, M.P., with certain divorce proceedings which, it was alleged by the writer of the paragraph, had been settled out of Court by the payment of a sum of money. Mr. Gladstone denies the whole story, and according to the information received it is a tissue of falsehoods.

Mr. W. E. Gladstone, speaking at Hawarden on Saturday at a meeting of the inhabitants, said: "We have been singularly blessed in our children. They have been brought up around me, I may venture to say, without constraint. They never have been governed at any period of their lives by force. We have had faith in principles of love and of mutual attachment, and have received in their conduct our richest reward. With the exception of the case in which it has pleased Almighty God that serious anxieties of health should arise, and of one single case, now long past, of the bereavement of one loved little daughter, there has never been, in connection with any one of them, occasion in either of our hearts for a moment's anxiety or solicitude."

#### RECENT APPOINTMENTS AT P. V. G.

The following acting official notifications appear in the *Peking Gazette* of the 1st inst.:  
Hui Keng Sheng is appointed Acting President of the Board of Civil Appointments, *vice* Hui Tung, who is now officiating as one of the Board of Examiners at the Examinations for the degree of Chu Jen. Hui Keng Sheng's own post of President of the Board of Revenue, will be temporarily taken over by Sun Yü Wen.  
The Marquis Tseng has been appointed Acting Junior Vice-President of the Board of Civil Appointments, *vice* Hui Tung, who is also acting as one of the Board of Examiners. Liao Shou-heng (one of the Imperial Commissioners sent to Tientsin in 1884 to negotiate the preliminary treaty of peace with France) has been named Acting Senior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, *vice* Sun Tai-chin, the latter being at present fully employed at the examinations. Sun Chia-nai (tutor to the Emperor) will act as President of the Board of War, *vice* Tan Tsu-yin (who was a doctor at Shanghai fifteen years ago, and was raised to his present high rank, through various grades, for curing the Dowager-Empress of a serious malady), and who is also a leading light at the examinations. Kuei Jen takes over temporarily the duties of President of the Board of Colonial Superintendency, *vice* Sung Shen, who is acting as Manchurian examiner at the examinations. Ma Pei-yao has been appointed Furi (Governor) of Kuang-shi, and Chang Lien Kuei, Provincial Treasurer of the same province.

[The Marquis Tseng has therefore obtained a step in promotion by his present acting appointment, which, if made permanent, will entitle him, if sent out of Peking, to be a Governor-General of one of the minor provinces.—Ed., *Hongkong Telegraph*.]

\* The six days at Peking rank as follows in regard to Seniority—Board of Civil Appointments, Board of Revenue, and Board of Examiners, Board of War, Board of Colonial Superintendency, Board of Examinations, and Board of Examiners at the Examinations for the degree of Chu Jen.

#### NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

A man living on the borders of the districts of Hsiao-shan and Shun-shi, possessed unfortunately for himself, a son who was addicted to low habits and the company of thieves, to the great grief of the father. He never prays nor treats could make the young man turn over a new leaf, and so one day last week, taking advantage of a sacrificial anniversary to their ancestors, the son was made helplessly drunk, and while unconscious was despatched with a knife by his own father, aided by a dozen or so of uncles and cousins. In palliation of the deed, the father of the unfortunate young man is reported to have said, that as his son would be hanged some time or other by an offended Government, and thus bring odium and troubles on his family, it was better that he should die by his own father's hand, than in any other disgraceful manner. *—Juillita fad.*

The *Kwang-pao* relates that a man named Chén, while aiding his fellow villagers the other night, at Fashan to resist a band of pirates, lost his life in the encounter. After the coroner's inquest was concluded, the deceased was buried at the expense of the villagers, the obsequies being performed with great pomp and display. The whole village turned out, and the rustic Vigilance Corps, numbering fifty men, fired several volleys as the funeral procession proceeded to the cemetery. As the dead here left a family in poor circumstances, a public subscription was got up for their benefit, realising about a hundred and fifty dollars. The fellow workmen of the deceased also got together a purpose of fifty dollars and presented it to his wife. The paragraph concludes with the expression that "Chén's eyes must have sparkled with delight in Hades at all these things!"

#### AN OLD TIME MUTINY.

THE COOLIE TRAFFIC, THIRTY YEARS AGO.  
Captain James Keene, a Yankee skipper of the good old days, who may possibly be still remembered by a few veteran China hands, has lately been publishing some of his adventures

in connection with the horrors of the Chinese coolie traffic away back in the "fifties." "Uncle Jim" as the worthy "shellback" is familiarly called, relates the following interesting yarn:—  
"About the year 1858 or 1859 I remember kicking about Hongkong, having left the clipper ship *Flying Mist* where I had been engaged from Frisco to Hongkong. Desirous of getting back to the United States, and no good chances offering, I shipped as quartermaster on the *Messenger* of New York, Captain Manton, then lying up the Canton river at Whampoa. Having heard considerable about coolie ships, I dreaded the cruise; but I wanted to get home. I went up the river in a small steamer, passed through the Boca Tiao, and had a fine view of those remarkable forts, where the Chinamen had imbedded their guns in the rock so that they could not hit any boat or vessel passing through, unless the vessel got in range of the guns. After about eight hours' sail, I was put on board the ship. She was of 2000 tons, built in early Californian days, and an extra fast sailer.

"When I reached the dock, I found that there was no crew and only three other quartermasters, her full complement being eight, and she carried when all the crew and officers were on board, about 100 men. A few coolies were on board, and my duty was to keep watch over them. The crew and remaining officers came up from Hongkong, and the vessel was soon got ready for sea.

"Then the brokers began to put the coolies on board. Runners were sent out into the country, and the coolies were obtained in any way possible. Some were hired and some were stolen. A raid would be made on some little village, and a number of young men and boys would be carried off. The man in charge was Governor of Canton made it a death penalty for any one to steal a coolie, and he tried to suppress the traffic, but the unprincipled Portuguese and renegade Chinamen would do almost anything for money, and the penalty did not deter them from man-stealing.

"The ship lay within gunshot of the shore, and one morning I saw quite a disturbance in town. Eight of these man-stealers had been caught in the act and these eight men lost their heads. The heads were stuck on poles as a warning to the coolie dealers.

"In due time we got on board 600 coolies, and had collected about 500 more when we heard that the Governor went to Canton to clear the ship. But the Governor, knowing that atrocious deeds had been committed on board, and in obtaining the coolies, came down with a fleet of men-of-war, and examined the lot to see if they were willing to go. After he had examined a few, he took them all on board of the junk, and carried them to Canton, and we never saw them again. I afterwards learned that they were all put into the Imperial army to fight the Tai Ping rebels.

"We lay at Whampoa about two weeks longer, and had collected about 500 more when we heard that the Governor intended to make another raid. So a small steamer was chartered and about 350 put on board on a dark night, and carried down the river to Macao. They first were put into a small vessel called a lancha, and thence put into the ship *Norway*. The third mate and four of the crew, aimed to the teeth, took charge of the lancha and went with them. We were told to go carefully, and not to allow any one to board us. The next day the Governor came again, and found that the birds had all flown. Seeing that we could not get our cargo there, we left for Canton, and on arriving, fell in with the United States sloop-of-war *Hofford*. After a short stay here, word was given on a very dark night to get ready for sea. All of the officers were stationed on deck with pistols and cutlasses. We were told to do as we were bid and ask no questions. All lights were put out, except a large lantern between decks, and perfect quiet remained on board.

"About midnight, four dark objects were seen approaching the ship. As they came nearer, a lantern was run up to the starboard mainyard arm, and a light shone over the bow. The vessel came alongside, and then we saw that their decks were crowded with coolies under a strong guard. They were quickly transferred on board and put into the hold. When the sun rose next morning, we were just in sight of land, with 410 coolies on board bound for Havana.

"We went to work arranging our cargo. They were all numbered by a tin medal hung from the neck by a cord; on one side was a Chinese character, and on the other an English interpretation. They were fed on rice and fish; bread was scarce and flour was also given them, but it was so hard you could pick it up the length of the ship without breaking it. Every precaution was taken to observe cleanliness, but we lost thirty on the passage from disease. This was a great deal less than the average on coolie ships; still the vessel got a good thing out of it. She was paid so much as \$65,000. A high picket fence was built across the deck, behind which stood the guards. The coolies were allowed to occupy lived about this barrier, and every precaution was taken to prevent any uprising of the coolies, and they were treated as well as circumstances would permit. All of the officers were armed.

"For the first ten days everything went well, and the officers began to congratulate themselves that there would be no trouble. But the devils were at work plotting their scheme. We had on board, as afterwards found, some twenty-five Ladrone pirates, who had shipped as coolies with the express purpose of capturing the ship and murdering the crew. It was their intention, in case of success, to go to the ship into the interior in the China sea, and fitting out her boats, go on a regular piratical cruise, killing all that would not join them. The ship was to be plundered and then burned, and we learned from one of the prisoners after the fight.

"The pirates were trying to get as many of the coolies to join them as they could, so as to make success sure. They made a perfect organization, and the part each one was to do in the *mutiny* was laid out by the leaders. The chief was a large, powerful Quang-tung Tartar known as Sing Hei, who had been a noted pirate, and at one time had assisted at the capture of Dutch brig when all hands were massacred. He was the most villainous cut throat I ever saw, and his face was enough to hang him anywhere. He was killed in this fight, but he fought like a tiger, continually cheering his followers on by a loud, peculiar cry.

"One fine Sunday morning, only a short distance from the island of Hainan, I was at the wheel. The guards were pacing their beats about the barrier, and two of our men were on the bridge just about the mainmast, the rest of the watch having gone below. At this time, there were about 150 on deck, playing cards and other games; there was a small party on top of the forward house, playing also. Everything was quiet, and no one for a moment thought of trouble. The conspirators had fastened the forecastle door, and the watch below of thirty men were prisoners. The men who had gone into the lower hold for provisions were also fastened down, so it left us with only the little squad of officers, about the barricade, to do the fighting, numbering about twelve against 400, but we had the advantage in arms.

"All at once a wild, startling yell, like an Indian war-whoop, sounded through the ship, and the devil came on hustling aft in a solid body on top of the bridge, and attempted to scale the barricade. The two men on the bridge were knocked off, but managed to escape through the crowd, and got up to the mainmast. The coolies

knew that three men were in the cabin, and that place they were trying to reach. I dropped the wheel, leaving the vessel to take care of herself as best she could, and, drawing my cutlass, rushed into the crowd with the other quartermasters on duty, and met this wild mob on top of the after-house. They had secured handspikes, belaying pins, and anything they could get for weapons, and old Sing Hei was swinging a sailmaker's bench over his head. We checked them in advance, and were in a few seconds reinforced by the rest of the officers, who had jumped from their berths and rushed into the fight. It was cut and thrust. One fellow with a heavy capstan bar struck at my head. I tried to parry with my cutlass, but the struck with such force, and the bar was so heavy, that he broke down my guard, and the end striking me on the head, laid open the scalp and knocked me down, but before he had time to raise the bar again my companion jumped over me as I lay, and, swinging his cutlass over his head, struck the pirate a heavy blow which split his skull, and he fell dead alongside of me; and then lifting me up he said: 'Go for them; you are not dead yet, but we all shall be if these devils get the upper hand of us.' I went in, doing the best I could, but I felt so freely that I was blinded from the loss of blood. At last we cleared the top of the house, and the carpenter and boat-swin, with the revolvers, began shooting into the crowd, and they all disappeared below. They could not make out what was the matter, when they saw us firing pistols without stopping to load, and concluded to get out of the way.

"It seemed a long time, but I do not suppose the fight lasted ten minutes. As soon as the upper decks were cleared, we liberated the crew fastened in the forecastle, and gave each one a musket with a ball. Twenty of us, headed by the first mate, went down below decks, and re-corded the remainder of the crew. The coolies made one rush, but were met with fixed bayonets, and when they found our ranks would not break they retreated at once again. We then mustered all hands, and found that the casualties on our side were the third mate, who had a sad wound, and the two men who were hanged off the bridge and badly bruised. A man was put at the wheel, and the ship again took its course. The crew were then arranged along in a row of about twenty, on each side of the vessel, with a quartermaster at their head, every man with a musket and bayonet. The coolies were then driven on deck one by one, and as they came out of the hold they were met by two of the quartermasters, and myself, and if we could swear that we saw one of them in the fight, he was stripped naked, handcuffed and carried to the quarter deck. Seven men stood guard over them with strict orders to shoot the first one showing any signs of being up. The others were told to take their queues down, as no Chinaman will fight with it down. We did not know this at the time, but ever after, no coolie was allowed on deck without first unfastening his queue. We found that we had lost a man, and that six had been killed in the fight, among whom was the leader, old Sing Hei, who had changed his name to Sing Lo. The mutineers were brought to the main deck, and tried up to the rigging and the pickets of the barricade by their shackled arms, just so they could bear a small portion of their weight on the balls of their feet. A bundle of bamboos was obtained, and flogging began on the bare back, four dozen blows being the allowance. The boatswain was a very powerful man, and did most of the whipping, and he could fling a coolie on deck without first unfastening his queue. We found that we had lost a man, and that six had been killed in the fight, among whom was the leader, old Sing Hei, who had changed his name to Sing Lo. The mutineers were brought to the main deck, and tried up to the rigging and the pickets of the barricade by their shackled arms, just so they could bear a small portion of their weight on the balls of their feet. A bundle of bamboos was obtained, and flogging began on the bare back, four dozen blows being the allowance. The boatswain was a very powerful man, and did most of the whipping, and he could fling a coolie on deck without first unfastening his queue. 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